



# Bitterroot National Forest

1801 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Hamilton, MT 59840 (406) 363-7100

## WILDFIRE UPDATE

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Nan Christianson  
Public Affairs Officer  
(406) 363-7113 office  
(406) 531-1130 cell**

### **Rombo Fire Growth Steadied Today**

**HAMILTON, MT; AUGUST 1, 2007 4:30PM.** --- The Rombo fire continued to grow at a slower but steady pace throughout the day on Wednesday. Currently estimated at 430 acres, the fire's growth is characterized as creeping and smoldering with occasional isolated torching as it moves through the dead and downed timber.

Thirty one firefighters plus fire managers affiliated with the District's Type III Fire Team are assigned to the fire. Air support is available but has had little flight time today due to poor visibility. Larry Fvalberg's Incident Command Team is scheduled to arrive on Thursday evening and will take over management of the fire on Friday morning.

A public meeting is scheduled for 6:30 on Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Little Boulder Bay Boat Launch on Painted Rocks Reservoir, to introduce Incident Commander Fvalberg and to provide an update about the fire and the Forest's suppression plans.

The Rombo Fire is located near Rombo Mountain, approximately 4 miles north-northeast of Painted Rocks Reservoir and 5 miles south-southeast of the West Fork Ranger Station. No private property or structures are threatened at this time.

A closure order prohibiting public access on National Forest roads or lands in the area of the fire was signed by Acting Forest Supervisor Barry Paulson on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Maps and full descriptions of the closed area are available at Forest offices, and on line at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot/> . We will be implementing Stage II Fire Restrictions in the Magruder Corridor beginning Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Other Fire News from the Bitterroot:**

- One new potential start was reported on Wednesday. The unconfirmed smoke is located in Section 5, T 28 N, R 15 E, between Scofield and Indian Creek in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness.
- Pete Creek, near Nez Perce Peak on the West Fork Ranger District, remains at 1/10 of an acre in size and is being staffed by 2 heli-rappellers.
- Angle Mountain, also on the West Fork Ranger District, was contained Tuesday evening at 1/10 of an acre, by three firefighters from the West Fork Ranger Station.

Those portions of the Bitterroot National Forest outside designated wilderness are under Stage II Restrictions; lands within the Selway-Bitterroot and Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness areas are under Stage I Restrictions. We will be implementing Stage II Fire Restrictions in the Magruder Corridor beginning Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. For specific Fire Restriction Information, call the Bitterroot National Forest offices at 406-363-7100 or visit <http://www.mt.blm.gov/fire/restrictions/index.html> .

Current information regarding these fires and any new starts can be found at the Bitterroot National Forest's Dispatcher's website, <http://63.196.254.151/WildWeb/WCMT-BRC.htm> .

##